

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00665 01 OF 02 090246Z

ACTION PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 IO-14 /070 W

-----007607 090313Z /14

O 090130Z AUG 78

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1937

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ALEXANDRIA 0665

STATE FOR PA AND PA/PRESS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR
DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

USICA FOR PGM/P

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE
GIVEN BY PRESIDENT SADAT AND SECRETARY VANCE AT THE
MAAMOURA REST HOUST, AUGUST 8, 1978:

SADAT: GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I WANT TO SAY A
FEW WORDS. IT HAS BEEN A VERY HAPPY OCCASION FOR ME TO MEET
AGAIN WITH MY FRIEND, CY. WE HAD A VERY LONG DISCUSSION
YESTERDAY NIGHT, ABOUT TWO HOURS OR SO, DURING WHICH HE HAS
DELIVERED TO ME A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ALEXAN 00665 01 OF 02 090246Z

AFTER SECRETARY VANCE DELIVERED TO ME THE MESSAGE OF
PRESIDENT CARTER, HE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO TELL ME AND BRIEF
ME ABOUT HIS TALKS IN ISRAEL. FOR SURE YOU MUST HAVE LEARNED
TODAY ABOUT THE STATEMENT THAT HAS BEEN ISSUED FROM THE
WHITE HOUSE BY PRESIDENT CARTER THAT WE SHALL BE MEETING PRESIDENT
CARTER, BEGIN AND ME, ON THE 5TH OF SEPTEMBER IN CAMP
DAVID. WE HAVE AGREED UPON THAT LAST NIGHT AND WE HAVE

SURVEYED THE WHOLE SITUATION, NOT ONLY THE SITUATION HERE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT ALL OVER THE AREA THAT WE ARE LIVING HERE, ESPECIALLY AFRICA AND, AS USUAL, WE HAVE AGREED UPON THE WHOLE ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION. I WANT TO EXPRESS, REALLY, MY PLEASURE AND SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY AND ASK SECRETARY VANCE TO CONVEY TO MY DEAR FRIEND PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ALL THE GRATITUDE OF MY PEOPLE AND MINE FOR THE GALLANT HELP THEY ARE GIVING AND UNDERSTANDING. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

VANCE: THANK YOU VERY MUCH MR. PRESIDENT. AS PRESIDENT SADAT INDICATED, I DELIVERED TO HIM LAST NIGHT AN INVITATION TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE THREE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT IN CAMP DAVID. THE PRESIDENT WAS GREATLY GRATIFIED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT IMMEDIATELY ACCEPTED THIS INVITATION. AS THE PRESIDENT INDICATED, THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEETING WILL BE TO SEEK A FRAMEWORK, TO SEARCH FOR A FRAMEWORK, FOR A JUST AND LASTING AND COMPREHENSIVE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THAT IS THE COURSE THAT ALL OF US DESIRE AND, AS THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID ON MANY OCCASIONS, WE SHALL PERSEVERE IN HELPING WITH THE SEARCH FOR THAT NOBLE OBJECTIVE, AND I WISH TO EXTEND ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OUR THANKS TO PRESIDENT SADAT, AND WE LOOK FORWARD VERY MUCH TO RECEIVING HIM IN CAMP DAVID IN JUST A FEW WEEKS. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS HAMDY FOUAD OF AL-AHRAM
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ALEXAN 00665 01 OF 02 090246Z

NEWSPAPER. PRESIDENT SADAT, DID YOU FIND ANYTHING IN THE ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARD THE AMERICAN POINT OF VIEW WHICH HAS BEEN EXPRESSED TO YOU TO CHANGE YOUR MIND AND TO ACCEPT THIS INVITATION AND TO MEET WITH MR. BEGIN AND WHETHER YOU FIND ANY MEANING IN MEETING IN CAMP DAVID THAT (INAUDIBLE) YOURSELF SOME KIND OF IDEA ABOUT THE CAMP DAVID DECLARATION FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR?

SADAT: LET ME SAY THIS: IT IS EXACTLY AS I TOLD YOU. AFTER I HAVE READ THE MESSAGE, THE PERSONAL MESSAGE, THAT WAS DELIVERED TO ME BY OUR FRIEND, CY, I HAVE DECIDED TO GO TO CAMP DAVID FOR THE SAME PURPOSE THAT WAS MENTIONED TODAY IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECLARATION -- TO SEEK THE FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE. AND LET US SAY THIS: THIS IS, IN MY OPINION, A NEW PAGE. LET US NOT LOOK BACK. THANK YOU.

Q: MR. PRESIDENT, I AM BERNARD KALB OF CBS NEWS. WAS THERE ANYTHING THAT THE UNITED STATES PRIVATELY ASSURED YOU ABOUT, BY WAY OF ANY CONDITIONS, THAT RUN INTO YOUR CALCULATIONS TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION?

SADAT: FIRST OF ALL, LET ME TELL YOU THIS: PRESIDENT CARTER AND

ME, WE HAVE DEDICATED OURSELVES FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE.
ALL I ASKED IN CAMP DAVID IS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER, ON BEHALF
OF THE UNITED STATES, ACTS AS A FULL PARTNER. WHENEVER I AM
ASSURED OF THIS, I SHALL ALWAYS ANSWER ANY INVITATION FROM
PRESIDENT CARTER.

Q: MR. PRESIDENT, I AM BARRY DUNSMORE OF ABC NEWS. ALONG THOSE
LINES, HAVE YOU HAD ANY INDICATION -- WHEN YOU MENTIONED
PRESIDENT CARTER PLAYING A FULL ROLE IN BEING A FULL PARTNER --
HAVE YOU HAD ANY INDICATION THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL BE
PRESENTING ANYTHING THAT COULD BE DESCRIBED AS AN AMERICAN PLAN
WHICH YOU AND MR. BEGIN AND MR. CARTER WILL BE NEGOTIATING.

SADAT: WHY NOT ASK SECRETARY VANCE THIS QUESTION?
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 ALEXAN 00665 01 OF 02 090246Z

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00665 02 OF 02 090246Z
ACTION PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 IO-14 /070 W
-----007579 090313Z /14

O 090130Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1938
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ALEXANDRIA 0665
STATE FOR PA AND PA/PRESS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR
DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

USICA FOR PGM/P

VANCE: I WILL BE VERY GLAD TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION. AS PRESIDENT SADAT HAS SAID, WE ARE PREPARED TO PLAY A ROLE AS A FULL PARTNER. WE SEEK THE SAME OBJECTIVES, WE SEEK PEACE, WE SEEK A JUST AND LASTING PEACE. THE PARTIES WILL HAVE TO REACH AGREEMENT, BUT, AS I HAVE ALWAYS SAID ON MANY, MANY OCCASIONS, THE UNITED STATES FEELS FULLY FREE, WHEN IT SEES OBSTACLES, THAT ARE IMPEDING THE ROAD TO PEACE, TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW TO BRIDGE THOSE OBSTACLES.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, THIS IS LARS NELSON OF NEWSWEEK. COULD YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC THAN SAYING YOU ARE GOING TO SEARCH FOR A FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE BECAUSE, AS YOU KNOW, THERE ARE SEVERAL SUCH FRAMEWORKS, MOST NOTABLY RESOLUTION 242, THE ASWAN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ALEXAN 00665 02 OF 02 090246Z

DECLARATION, AND SO ON. CAN YOU SPECIFY WHETHER THIS WILL BE A NEGOTIATING SESSION OR SIMPLY A BROAD DISCUSSION OF PRINCIPLES.

VANCE: YOU ARE QUITE RIGHT IN SAYING THAT 242 IS THE BASIC UNDERLYING DOCUMENT AND PRINCIPLE ON WHICH THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IS BASED; THAT HAS BEEN AND REMAINS THE BASIS FOR THE SEARCH FOR PEACE. BUT I THINK, AS THE LANGUAGE ITSELF INDICATES, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A FRAMEWORK, A FRAMEWORK WITHIN RESOLUTION 242, AND I THINK THAT'S QUITE CLEAR FROM THE WORDS WE ARE USING.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, THIS IS DICK VALERIANI FROM NBC. WHEN YOU SAY THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO BE A FULL PARTNER NOW, WHAT PRECISELY DOES THAT MEAN? DOES THAT REPRESENT ANY SHIFT IN THE AMERICAN POSITION?

VANCE: WE HAVE ALWAYS INDICATED THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO PLAY A ROLE AS A PARTNER, AND INDEED AS A FULL PARTNER, BECAUSE PEACE IS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS AREA, PEACE IS IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES, PEACE IS IMPORTANT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD, AND WE ARE HAPPY TO BE A FULL PARTNER IN THAT SEARCH.

Q: IF I MAY FOLLOW UP, SIR. PARTNER SUGGESTS THAT YOU ARE NOT GOING TO MEDIATE BUT THAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO SOMETHING BEYOND THAT.

VANCE: I THINK I MADE IT CLEAR IN WHAT I INDICATED EARLIER THAT THERE WILL BE DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE THREE PARTIES, THAT A SOLUTION HAS TO BE REACHED BETWEEN THE PARTIES, THAT AT ANY TIME WE FEEL THERE ARE OBSTACLES THAT ARE IMPEDING PROGRESS IN THE AREA, WE WILL FEEL FREE TO MAKE OUR OWN SUGGESTIONS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ALEXAN 00665 02 OF 02 090246Z

Q: MR. SECRETARY, PLEASE. YOU HAVE A FRAMEWORK, OR YOU ARE STRIVING FOR A FRAMEWORK. DO YOU HAVE A TIME FRAMEWORK TOO; DO YOU SEE ANY URGENCY FOR REACHING A SOLUTION?

VANCE: YES, I DO; I THINK TIME IS IMPORTANT. I THINK THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE NOT LET THINGS DRIFT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE MOVE THE PEACE PROCESS BACK ONTO THE TRACK, THAT WE GET MOMENTUM BEHIND THE PEACE PROCESS AGAIN, AND THIS IS ONE OF THE BASIC REASONS WHY THE PRESIDENT EXTENDED THE INVITATION TO PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO COME TO WASHINGTON. NOW AS FAR AS THE MEETINGS THEMSELVES ARE CONCERNED, THERE IS NO SPECIFIC TIME WITHIN WHICH THE MEETING HAS TO TAKE PLACE. IN TERMS OF TIME, WE HAVE AN OPEN AGENDA.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, THIS IS HODA TEWFIG FROM AL-GOMHOURIYA NEWSPAPER. PLEASE MAY I ASK YOU, WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN BY PLAYING THE ROLE OF FULL PARTNER?

VANCE: I THINK I HAVE ANSWERED THAT BEFORE AND I REALLY HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO WHAT I HAVE SAID.

Q: AND, SIR, DID YOU GET ANY INDICATION FROM THE ISRAELIS THAT, WHEN YOU PLAY A FULL PARTNER, THEY WILL COME ALONG IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND WHAT WOULD BE THE REPERCUSSION IF CAMP DAVID IS A FAILURE?

VANCE: I THINK THEY ARE DELIGHTED THAT WE ARE PLAYING THE ROLE OR WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY THE ROLE OF A FULL PARTNER. I THINK THAT ISRAEL, AS EGYPT, WANTS TO SEE THE UNITED STATES PLAY THE ROLE OF A FULL PARTNER.

Q: I'M KAREN ELLIOTT HOUSE OF THE WALL STREET JOURNAL AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK PRESIDENT SADAT THE QUESTION THIS LADY JUST ASKED. WHAT ARE THE DANGERS IF THIS CAMP DAVID MEETING FAILS? WHAT DO YOU DO NEXT IF YOU DON'T SUCCEED THERE?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 ALEXAN 00665 02 OF 02 090246Z

SADAT: WELL, LET ME TELL YOU THIS. I HAVE ALWAYS STATED THAT I AM OPTIMISTIC BY NATURE. WHATEVER HAPPENS, I SHALL DECIDE THE NEXT STEP AFTER IT HAPPENS. LET ME USE THE BRITISH PROVERB THAT "LET US NOT CROSS THE BRIDGE UNTIL WE REACH IT." THANK YOU.
MCCLELLAND

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ALEXAN00665
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780325-0164
Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780880/aaaacoud.tel
Line Count: 278
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2dceea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1786307
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> VJT 20041104
Subject: JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY PRESIDENT SADAT AND SECRETARY VANCE AT THE MAAMOURA REST HOUST
TAGS: OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2dceea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014